Depot Town Rag

FREE 100% RAG CONTENT

JANUARY MEETINGS

Foundation - 7:30 - Jan. 2
Association - 8:00 - Jan. 16
. . . in the Old Caboose

A PUBLICATION OF THE DEPOT TOWN ASSOCIATION, INC. The Caboose, 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198

SOMETHING FOR THE KIDS:

Last August's pre-festival edition of the Ypsilanti Press hinted that most of the upcoming attractions were 'adults only' and that assumption has led us to assess the focus of activities in Depot Town. Just what do we offer the kids?

Hardly a day goes by without some 'old timer' telling us about their childhood experiences on the block, and it seems the tradition has been continuous. We have lots of Depot Town kids today, either residents or regulars, and here's what they do down in the old neighborhood:

- An ice cream parlor and family-oriented restaurants certainly draw kids - alone, in groups and 'with the folks.'
- Young shoppers abound in Big Bob's Magazine Emporuim pouring over the largest selection of comics in the area.
- The Candy Shoppe caters to sweet tooths and offers soft ice cream, as well.
- Kids love to look at Jack Miller's Hudson collection and marvel at those mechanical antiquities of another day. His toy cars and trucks draw the younger set, too.
- Teen-types with an eye for the past haunt Apple Annie's and Vintage Passion. Where else could today's beatniks, hippies and punkers find the real thing?
- Tomorrow's artists get their start at the Farmers' Market Kidcrafts booth every Saturday and the Gnarly Tree and the Farm Wagon certainly don't get many adults

continued overleaf

MOVE THE PEOPLE'S PEOPLE MOVER

A Proposal to the Mayor of Detroit:

Dear Coleman Young:

If you'll just disconnect the concrete at one point, we'll meet you in front of the Ren-Cen with every pick-up truck in Ypsilanti, load the People Mover pylons, and snake them down I-94. We promise to leave the site as clean as the Heritage Festival grounds on Labor Day and will tell everyone what a great guy you are for giving all that concrete to Ypsilanti. Once that monster is off your hands, you should be as popular as Pete Murdock.

Cost? Why start worrying about that now? Just be glad to get it off your hands.

Our only problem is deciding where to put it. So far, the City plan and the Township plan don't coincide, but we're working on it.

SNOW REMOVAL INCENTIVES

Last year's clean sidewalk contest wasn't as much fun as we hoped it would be. Maybe that's because there were no losers. A few people had fun razzing their neighbor who was last to clean his or her sidewalk, but even the last ones were either on time or early!

Apparently Depot Towners already know that, aside from it being the law, it's also a courtesy to their customers to keep the walkways clean and dry. It's easier on the shops' interiors, as well. We know one place whose front sales room looks like a swamp right after every new snowfall. If that owner were from Depot Town, he'd quickly see how early shoveling pays off.

COPY CATS?

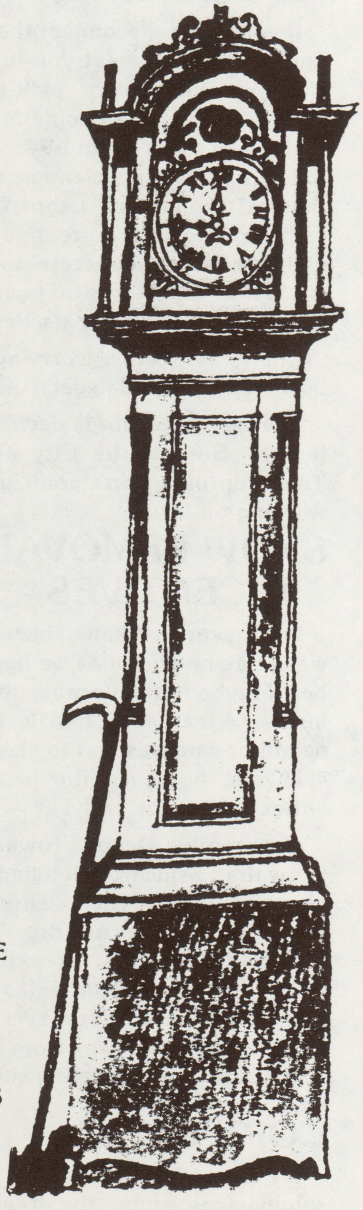
We have noticed some of those bland subdivisions along the freeways which have put up concrete walls to simulate box cars on a siding. Do they play recordings of steam engines on their stereos, too?

ADVERTISING in The Depot Town Rag is available to business enterprises from the environs of Depot Town (only) at the rate of nine dollars per month. Changes in copy may be made each month if desired, with new copy due on the third Thursday at the Caboose. Camera ready art may be included and may take a few days longer to set up. 1500 copies are distributed, free, throughout the area, while most are picked up in the block. The back page (Ragtime) features additional copy related to Depot Town businesses whether they are paid advertisers, or not. The cost of printing THE RAG is entirely supported by our advertisers.

climbing on them.

- Craft classes are filled with kids at The Grand Trunk, Ltd., and J & J Plastercraft.
- The Old Caboose has found hundreds of parents showing their pups what it used to be like down here - and many of the mommies and daddies have never been in a caboose before, either. Some of them even rent it for kids' birthday parties.
- And who can forget the trains? Don't they continue to run just for the enjoyment of children?
- DTA/WEMU purposely run their Winter Jazz Series (Jan., Feb., March) at an early hour. Partly to guarantee a good bar crowd after midnight but partly to afford easy attendance for kids. Many families bring a picnic basket and take the kids home after the first set.
- Other DTA events for children include: Boomer Day's scavenger hunt and Hobo dress-up contests. (Last year's king and queen were under ten), the Hollowe'en party, the DTA/CBC Easter egg hunt.
- And don't forget Kidsart – with Professor Malarkey. He's probably the biggest kid on the block, himself.

Our favorite comentary on the issue of 'kidstuff' was from one of the women at Farmers' Market one winter's morning. She'd been watching some tots who were engrossed in the coffee shop activity (music, talk and snacks around the pot-bellied stove) and she turned and said, "Some day THESE kids will be telling their children about 'the good old days down here'."



ANTIQUE
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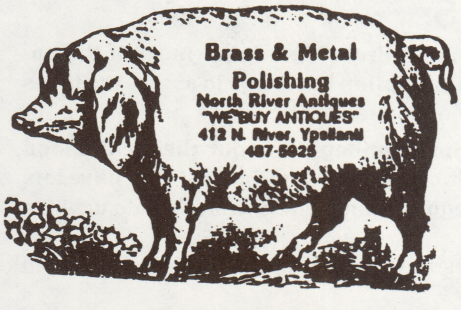
ANTIIKKI

No matter how you say or spell it, Depot Town is the place to look for it!

DEPOT EXCHANGE ANTIQUES
34 East Cross Street
Professional Furniture Stripping & Rrefinishing
10% off to RAG Readers
WE BUY AND SELL ANTIQUES

Specializing in Unusual & Different Costume Jewelry

VINTAGE PASSION
Antiques - Collectables - Art Deco
Vintage Clothing and Accessories
Tuesday – Saturday: 11:00 to 6:00
Sunday Noon to 5:00
Owner
Linda J. Williams
32 E. Cross St.
Historic Depot Town
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197



Jim MacDonald's Antiques
Apple Annie's Vintage Clothing
29 East Cross • 481-0555
Tuesday-Saturday 12-6 Sunday 12-4

THE GNARLY TREE

She's the centerpiece of the Market Plaza - an important personality in the neighborhood. But she has her faults.

She's a Box Elder that draws bugs and drops sap on passers-by and parked cars. She's a nuisance in her old age.

But she's good for climbing. And leaning on. She's another symbol of the neighborhood.

And she's an excellent natural focal point, a sculpture, malformed by disease, formed partly by the pipes and props which hold her up.

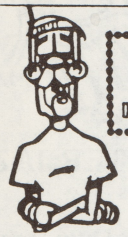
She's actually a fallen-down tree that grows anyway. Each year another section dies - and the carpenter ants move in. It's a lot like having a good neighbor who's dying of cancer. And we wonder how long she'll be with us - and what we'll do when she's not there any more. We wonder if we're really enjoying her presence to the fullest, today.

The Gnarly Tree is but another Depot Town resident who is "just passing through". She's made her mark on the block and people will remember her with great respect when she's gone.

THANKS TO SANTA'S HELPERS

Estelle Sutherland, of the Farmers' Market Coffee Shop, sends her thanks to the many who helped to make the Coffee Shop such a gorgeous place for Christmas: Mary, Ann, Norma, Raymond, Malcom for candy canes. Special thanks, also to Russell Kerchoff for donating the beautiful Christmas Tree.

JANUARY



BIG BOB'S
MAGAZINE AND FANTASY EMPORIUM
50 East Cross
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(313) 485-4930
Monday - Wednesday 11-6
Friday 11-7, Saturday 11-6, Sunday 10-2
CLOSED THURSDAY'S

RAGTIME

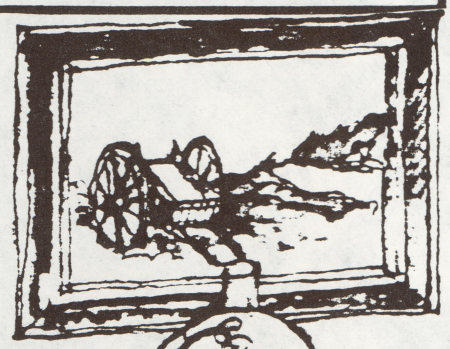
Another Great New Year!

DOWN IN DEPOT TOWN

PRONTO
PIZZA & SUBS
37 E. CROSS . DEPOT TOWN
YPSILANTI
483-4555
SUN-THU 4-12 FRI & SAT 4-2
Free Delivery
on orders over $4.00

Richard C. Laflin
310 N. River
Ypsilanti, MI 48198
487-1510
bd
B & D RETAIL PLUMBING
and HEATING, INC.

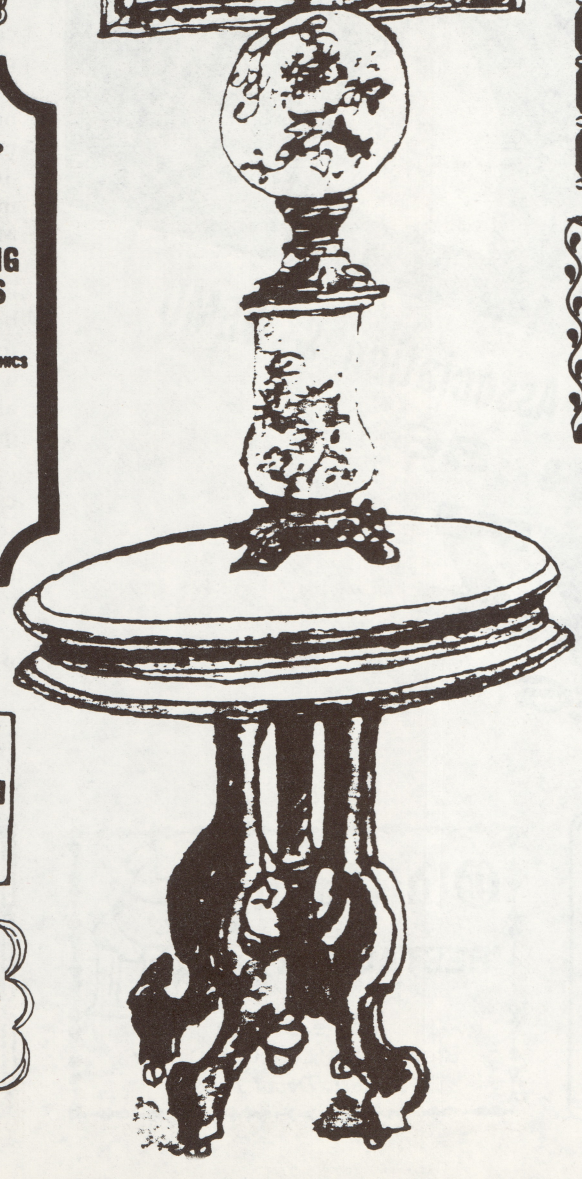
T.H.E. Market
"To your good health"
FOR YOUR
NUTRITIONAL NEEDS
19 E. Cross 485-2711
Depot Town Ypsilanti



Pints
Quarts
Half Gallons
Gallons
Miller's ICE CREAM
Malts
Shakes
Sodas
Cones
Sundaes
42 E. Cross • Ypsilanti, Michigan
485-7548
"Have Ice Cream the old fashioned way."
Sit down to the creamiest
ice cream around served
in a real glass dish.

IKE'S
DEPOT TOWN BARBER SHOP
40 E. CROSS
YPSILANTI
483-6300

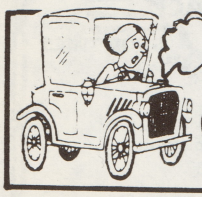
RIVER ARTWORKS
CUSTOM FRAMING
DESIGNER MATS
482-8785
• PROFESSIONALS WITH ALL GRAPHICS
NEEDLECRAFT
FRAMING OF OBJECTS
ARCHIVAL FRAMING
• GALLERY OF ORIGINAL ART
• RENTAL DARKROOM
• RENTAL WORKROOM
48 E. CROSS
DEPOT TOWN



Hon's
Flowers & Fancies
46 E. CROSS • 482-2124
DEPOT TOWN YPSILANTI

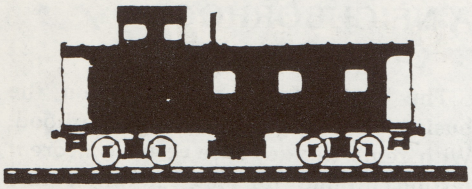
Eggs Milk Grains Produce Nuts Dried Fruits
Pasta Breads Juices Goats Milk Tempeh
Herbs Canned Goods Teas Spices
Yogurt Tofu Beans
YPSI FOOD COOP
312 N. River 483-1520
Sun. 12 - 4 Mon. - Fri. 10 - 7 Sat. 9 - 6

Ted's AUTO ELECTRIC
307 N., River St. Ypsilanti, Michigan
Phone 483-1238



CITY RADIATOR
11 E. CROSS
HISTORIC DEPOT TOWN
483-2248

Ypsilanti's Farmers' Market
in historic Depot Town



D.T.A. 19 DECEMBER 1985

7:30 p.m. in the Caboose NOVEMBER MINUTES read and approved. CORRESPONDENCE: Nancy Trammel is recovering nicely from her liver transplant.

TREASURER'S REPORT read and accepted. Total: $6790.04, General $3663.08, Rag $512.28, Jazz $1400.00, Special $1214.68. Final billboard payment is long overdue. The billboard acount is 'in the hole.' Pay from general fund and agressively collect back payments. Reimburse Linda Williams $60 for Halloween prizes (Special (Special Events Fund.)

RAG REPORT: Northwest business shuffling verified. (See article)

$350 CHRISTMAS tree donated to City's Farmer's Market. Negotiate for a trade-off on rental of the Freight House.

JAZZ: Lee Gold has volunteered to chair the clean up committee. Brochures are out. Liquor liability insurance cost will not be known until January. Profits are doubtful. First concert may still be covered by last year's policy. Should we investigate other companies? Is disaster insurance available for Frog Island concert? Mark Kotter will report in April.

ASCAP: suggests we pay $44 per performance investigate with WEMU.

BULK/MARRIAGE MAILING report postponed to January meeting.

1978 BILL FROM CITY for printing of Depot town Study: City wants DTA to pay for cost of State's refusal to pay. Tabled for lack of interest.

PARKING ENFORCEMENT: Lt. McMillan has the officers ticketing again. Two hour on-street parking must be enforced to guarantee customers convenient parking. Employees should park off the street.

WALKWAY: between Jim MacDonald's and the Auction House is being well taken care of by the City.

SANTA'S BEARD is maintained by Ray Packer. Reimburse his $23.92 for recent holiday expenses.

"OUR LITTLE SECRET" is Paul and Rebecca Dornfeld's new shop at 23 East Cross. They announced a resale clothing concept for the whole family and will also carry jewelry.

GOLDEN GOOSE AWARD goes to the stoop pooper who visited Bonni Rosen's shop one late night recently.

BEST YET AWARD to City Body for the removal of their underground gas storage tanks.

ADJOURNED: 8:56 P.M.

WCA Washtenaw Council for the Arts

AUDITION NOTICE

Great Lakes Performing Artist Associates, a regional non-profit concert office which represents talent in music, dance and theatre, is now expanding its Artist roster. The audition schedule for 1986 is:

Lansing, Michigan	January 30, 1986
Cleveland, Ohio	March 8, 1986
Chicago, Illinois	March 22, 1986

Great Lakes Performing Artist Associates provides career development and professional management services. The artists selected to join the Artist Roster pay a development fee and for the time and materials expended on their behalf. Commissions are not taken from the engagement fees which they earn.

Artists interested in auditioning for representation by Great lakes/PAA must reside in the Great Lakes region and should submit a tape and material documenting their performance background.

An information packet and application will be sent to performing artists interested in auditioning. Please write or phone: Great Lakes/PAA, 310 E. Washington St., Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104, 665-4029.

Come on Down

to Depot Town

Something

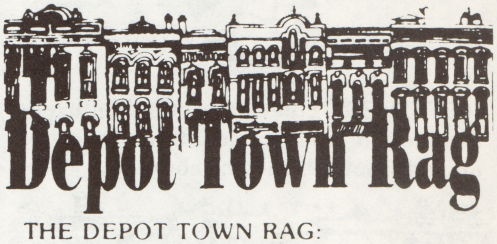
For Everyone

D.D.A. REORGANIZING

The Depot Town Development Authority is losing three of its mayor-appointed members: Greg Dodd, Barbara Lohr and Gary Urick can no longer serve in their previous capacities and Mayor Murdock will accept letters of application and interest in the next month. Continuing members include Bonni Rosen-Fine, Carolyn McKeever, Jim Shedd, Norm Lawson and Mayor Peter Murdock. Citizens interested in serving on the Authourity should talk to secretary/treasurer Rosen-Fine and then write to hizzoner requesting appointment.

BILLBOARD DOWN

After twelve months of moving around Washtenaw County, the first giant billboard ereacted by Central Advertising boasting the services in historic Depot Town has finished its service to tourists. Many local business paid a monthly fee to support this new publicity move for the block and thousands of new clients have reported its effect in the past year. No committee has moved to continue the project into its second year, and a few business'es are behind in their payments for the past effort. Please settle up with DTA treasurer, Eric Ward,at once.



THE DEPOT TOWN RAG:

A publication of the Depot Town Association, Inc., a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation dedicted to preserving the unique character of the neighborhood and to the enhancement of its business climate.

The Depot Town Association, Inc.
Gary McKeever, President
The Caboose, 400 Market Place
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198

PRINTING of every Description

All of Us at

STANDARD PRINTING

Wish All of You

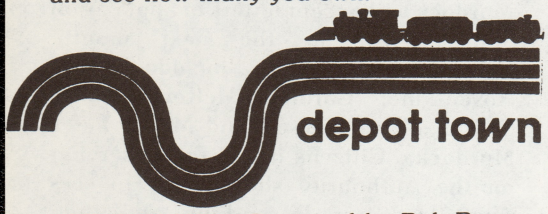
A HAPPY, HEALTHY, &

PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR ! ! !

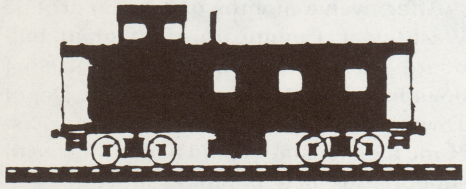
WHAT'S OUR SIGN?

(A Graphic Review)

Depot Town has been known by a geat many symbols (Logotypes) in the last ten years. Look through your T-shirt drawer and see how many you own.



THE CRAWL - Designed by Bob Rose while a student at EMU, we used it on stationery, early Rags, membership cards and shirts.

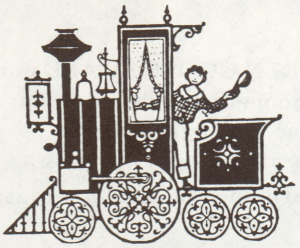


THE OLD CABOOSE - first appeared on fund-raising material to get the caboose here, then accompanied the monthly minutes in the Rag.

BOOMER - comes out of hiding every summer to lend his counterance to the annual Boomer Days celebration.

THE SKYLINE LOGO - started out in black as the banner for The Rag, then was half-toned on the Rag's tenth anniversary, also appeared on the giant billboards which moved around the county this year.

JAZZ - painted on the plywood poster back stage YPSILANTI PRESS photographer, Dennis Dunleavy, printed it and we used his photo on brochures, ads, and more posters in subsequent years.



VICTORIAN WINDOWS APPRECIATED

Mary Ann and Raymond Woodruff judged the Victorian Holiday windows throughout the neighborhood as announced on November 30th, the night before the annual open houses, and congratulate the following for their gorgeous displays:

OLD TOWN RESTAURANT - for the biggest display, the most countinuity, cascading down the street in three wide bays of Christmas color.

PAPONETTI'S PASTA - for their gaily colored, hand-painted designs which repeat their usual red, green and white decor – in a fashion appreciated by kids and adults.

AND EVERYTHING NICE - for 'The Best Christmas Ever', a gigantic pile of traditional gifts supporting a tiny tree. All the items were for sale, and the window changed daily.

AUBREE'S - for their over all visual effect and continuity - from bears to Florida to kids' and adults' dreams at Christmas.

SIDETRACK - for their annual interior display. Although they add to it every year, it's still tasteful and unified.

DEPOT EXCHANGE - for the collection of antique iron toys flowing from Santa's velvet bag.

HON'S FLOWERS & FANCIES - for the development of window-to-sales room continuity. And- for developing a continuity which carries clear down the block. Thanks, Joe Wizauer, for starting another great tradition in this old neighborhood.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION also, to the lovely displays at -

Vintage Passion
Shear Genius
Grand Trunk Ltd.
T.H.E. Market
J & J Plastercraft
Now & Then Antiques
Standard Printing
Miller Motors
Artrain Building
River Art Works
Big Bob's Magazine Emporium
Miller's Ice Cream Parlor

– and to Ray Packer for holding forth in the Old Caboose in his red suit and white beard. Ray's annual appearance started the holiday for many of us.

A NEIGHBORHOOD ON THE MOVE

The Rag seldom comments on the businesses leaving the neighborhood. With rents this low, we've been a great testing ground for new and first-time businesses, nestled among the more secure second and third generation businesses. We usually put our attention on new growth rather than recent failures, but the new year's changes are more dramatic than usual and we attempt to document them here...

23 East Cross – Now and Then Antiques will retire to mall shows and mini-mall concepts of merchandising while OUR LITTLE SECRET will be seen in that spot to continue the block's tradition of gently used quality clothing for the whole family.

25 East Cross – Jacqueline's Boutique is gone and we see the opening of THE DEPOT DO SALON, the neighborhood's first beauty shop, which should increase the women's trade in the block.

27 East Cross – And Everything Nice retires to an even-more-intense baby business, while THE CRICKET BOX (as announced last issue) opens a classy gift and card emporium in that location.

The Great Northwest Corner of this historic commercial district is committed to some exciting changes in the next few months. Watch this space for new developments.

NEED RENTAL SPACE IN DEPOT TOWN ?

What kind of space ?

Retail___Apartment___Service___
Studio___Office___Loft___
Other (describe) _____

Please explain your needs - number of rooms, people, activity, etc.

_____

Do you seek a lease -
or a month-to-month rental ___ ?

Your name_____

Address _____

City _____Zip_____

Phone (home) _____

Business or employer:

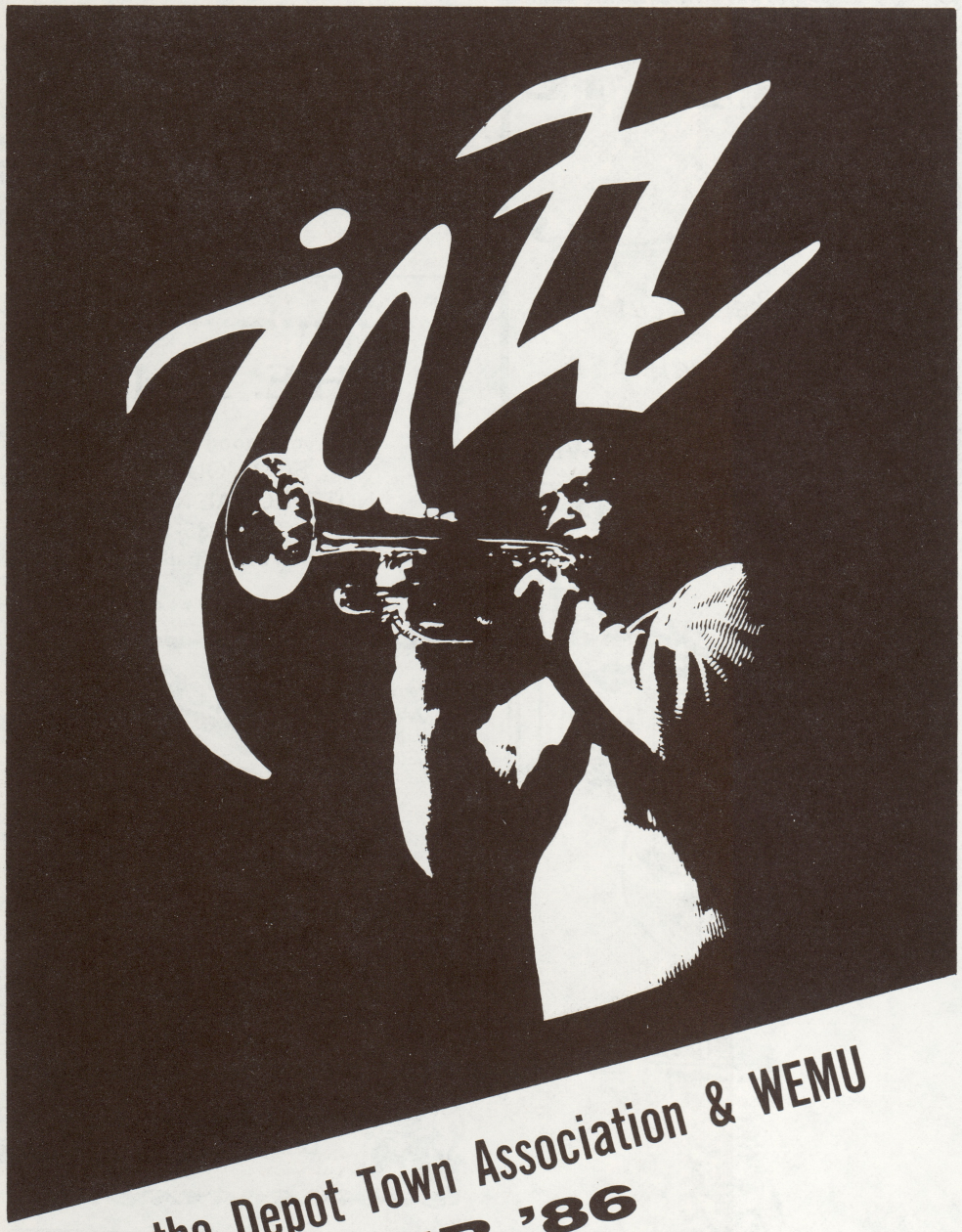
_____

Address _____

City _____Zip_____

Phone (if ok to call)_____

Deliver this inquiry to:
Historic Depot Town Foundation
The Caboose
400 Market Place
Ypsilanti, MI 48198
We will contact you in a few days.



the Depot Town Association & WEMU

WINTER '86 JAZZ SERIES

HANDLE WITH ENTHUSIASM

DEPOT TOWN WINTER JAZZ – 1986

Bid bands, the blues, Latin music boogie woogie, swing and Motor City bop...great concert music and irresistable dance music...good people, an informal and rustic setting, a warm evening on a cold winter's night: That's what the Depot Town Winter Jazz Series is about.

For this fifth anniversary season, WEMU and The Depot Town Association are presenting some of the finest music the vibrant Detroit area jazz community has to offer. The doors open at 6:30 p.m.; come early for a tasty, inexpensive dinner and drinks while you grab a good seat for the 7 o'clock warm up set. A 90 minute concert set follows at 8 o'clock, featuring the evening's main attraction. Then, in the venerable Jazz Series tradition, we pull back the chairs and dance until past midnight. There's a cash bar, coffee, tea and juices, snacks and food service. The music is never too loud, the Farmer's Market Building is never overcrowded, the audience never seems to get quite enough of what has become the biggest, best, most popular concert and party in town. It's people of all ages, from all walks of life, with this in common: They all love good music, good people and a great time.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

- *THE LUNAR GLEE CLUB* winners of the 1985 WEMU Jazz Competition
- *THE J.C. HEARD ORCHESTRA* modern jazz classics in a concert setting capped by great swing music for your dancing pleasure

Aubree's
Depot Town
Ypsilanti, Michigan

Old Town
RESTAURANT
Home Cooked
Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
Historic Depot Town

SIDETRACK
GOOD FOOD GOOD DRINKS GOOD TIMES
Located in historic Depot Town
56 E. Cross, Ypsilanti
483-1035